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ACTION: EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 10-16 USSS-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CPR-02

SY-03: 0-03 CIAE-00 DOD-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-08 L-04

NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03: RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 RSR-01

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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SUBJ: AMTORG BOMBING AND SOVIET HARASSMENT

1. SOVIET PRESS HAS GIVEN PROMINENCE TO REPORT OF AMTORG BOMBING AND SOVIETS HAVE BEGUN SERIES OF TELEPHONED PROTESTS TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL INCLUDING WARNING OF BOMB THREAT TO EMBASSY.

2. IZVESTIYA APRIL 23 AND SOME MORNING PAPERS APRIL 24 REPORT AMTORG INCIDENT AND SOVIET PROTEST. KOLESNICHENKO (PRAVDA APR. 24) STATES THAT BOMB PLACED IN SMALL SUITCASE CAUSED EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO FLOOR OF OFFICE BUILDING WHERE AMTORG LOCATED. ALTHOUGH EXPLOSIVE DEVICE HAD GREAT FORCE, AS WITNESSED BY FACT THAT STEEL DOOR BLOWN OFF HINGES, HE POINTS OUT THAT FORTUNATELY THERE WERE NO INJURIES. HE REPORTS WARNING CALL DURING WHICH CALLER SHOUTED SLOGANS OF "WELL-KNOWN BANDITS" OF THE JDL. HE ADDS THAT AS USUAL IN SUCH CASES POLICE ARRIVED BELATEDLY, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGES THEY DEFUSED ONE ADDITIONAL BOMB. KAHANE'S DENIAL OF JDL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BOMBING IS REPORTED, BUT COUPLED WITH HIS STATEMENT HAILING THOSE WHO DID IT.

3. KOLESNICHENKO COMMENTS THAT CONNIVANCE "WITH THE BANDITS" ONLY ENCOURAGES THEM TO FURTHER ACTIONS. HE ADDS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO READ WITHOUT SURPRISE, AMBASSADOR BUSH'S CONDEMNATION OF BOMBING AND RHETORICALLY ASKS WHETHER APPEALS WILL REALLY HAVE AN EFFECT.

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ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT IT "NECESSARY TO TAKE RESOLUTE MEASURES" AGAINST THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHOSE PROVOCATIONS CAN ONLY "BRING DAMAGE TO NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENTS".

4. SECOND PRAVDA ARTICLE DATED LINED WASHINGTON REPORTS SHARP PROTEST OF AMTORG INCIDENT BY SOVIET EMBASSY. ARTICLE PLACES STRESS ON SOVIET ALLEGATIONS OF CONNIVANCE ON PART OF US AUTHORITIES WHO PERMIT JDL MEMBERS TO GO UNPUNISHED AND THUS ENCOURAGE THEM TO UNDERTAKE FURTHER ACTIVITIES.

5. TELEPHONE CALLS TO EMBASSY PERSONNEL BEGAN PRIOR TO CLOSE OF BUSINESS APRIL 23. WHEN EMBOFF TOOK CALL FROM PERSON WHO SAID HE WISHED TO EXPRESS TO MINISTER HIS INDIGNATION OVER AMTORG BOMBING. INDIVIDUAL IMPLIED POSSIBLE RETALIATION AGAINST EMBASSY BY SAYING THAT SOVIET PATIENCE WEARING THIN. AT APPROXIMATELY 2330 HOURS APRIL 23 MARINE DESK RECEIVED CALL FROM INDIVIDUAL WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS AN AFRICAN STUDENT AND WARNED HE HAD HEARD BOMB WOULD GO OFF AT EMBASSY DURING THE NIGHT. SEARCH OF EMBASSY PREMISES BY MARINE GUARDS DID NOT TURN UP ANY EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. MINISTER INFORMED MILITIAMAN AT EMBASSY GATES OF BOMB THREAT.

6. AT APPROXIMATELY 2 A.M. APRIL 24, EMBOFFS AT EMBASSY AND OTHER LIVING AREAS BEGAN RECEIVING SPATE OF CALLS FROM "INDIGNANT CITIZENS", WHO ECHOED LINE THAT SOVIET PATIENCE WEARING THIN. MOST OF THESE CALLS STOPPED SHORT, HOWEVER, OF THREATS OF RETALIATION. TELEPHONE CALLS CONTINUING THIS MORNING. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT YET NOTED RESUMPTION OF HARASSING SURVEILLANCE. EXEMPT
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